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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9361

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

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USAF WASHDC

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 3 QUITO 1963

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, MILI, EC

SUBJECT: CHANGES IN FOREIGN MILITARY TRAINING PROGRAM: IMPACT ON BI-
LATERAL RELATIONS AND ECUADOREAN MILITARY TRAINING
PRIORITIES

REF: STATE 051768

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: CHANGES IN THE US FOREIGN MILITARY TRAINING
PROGRAM IN TERMS OF INCREASED TRAINING COSTS AND REDUCTIONS IN
GRANT TRAINING FUNDING WILL OVER THE LONG-RUN ADVERSELY AFFECT
OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH ECUADOR UNLESS SUCH CHANGES
ARE OFF-SET BY COOPERATIVE ACTIONS BY THE USG IN OTHER AREAS,
WHICH SEEMS UNLIKELY. THE USG HAS RESTORED GOOD RELATIONS
WITH ECUADOR ON THE BASIS OF THE US MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND
TRAINING PROGRAMS WHICH WERE RESUMED IN 1974 AFTER A LAPSE
OF ALMOST FOUR YEARS. THROUGH THESE PROGRAMS OUR INFLUENCE
WITH TOP MILITARY OFFICERS WHO CONTROL THE MILITARY GOVERN-
MENT HAS ENABLED US TO AVOID THE PERENNIAL FISHING DIS-
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PUTE AND CONTRIBUTE TO A CLIMATE WHERE US TRADE AND INVESTMENT

CAN BE PROMOTED. STEPS WERE TAKEN TO PREPARE THE ECUADOREANS FOR INCREASED TRAINING COSTS, HOWEVER, AND THESE SHOULD HAVE LITTLE IMMEDIATE ADVERSE EFFECTS ON OUR RELATIONS. SHOULD FUNDS BE CUT FROM PROPOSED LEVELS AND THE ECUADOREAN MILITARY BE FORCED TO SEEK TRAINING FROM MILITARY INSTITUTIONS LESS ESTEEMED BY THEM THAN THE US ARMED FORCES, WE CAN EXPECT A LESSENING OF OUR INFLUENCE WITH THE GOE FOR PROTECTION AND ADVANCEMENT OF OUR INTERESTS, AND DECLINING PURCHASES OF US MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND MOST LIKELY THE SAME EFFECT ON US COMMERCIAL PURCHASES.
END SUMMARY

2. FOLLOWING ARE VIEWS OF COUNTRY TEAM ON IMPACT OF INCREASED COST OF FUTURE FMTP ON THE FOLLOWING AREAS OF CONCERN.

3. CONCERN A. IMMEDIATE EFFECTS ON BILATERAL RELATIONS WHEN NEW COSTS BECOME KNOWN. THE MISSION HAS BEEN INCREASINGLY SUCCESSFUL SINCE JANUARY, 1974 IN ITS EFFORTS TO REBUILD GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE ECUADOREAN GOVERNMENT, WHICH HAD REACHED A LOW POINT IN 1971 WITH THE SUSPENSION OF FMS BECAUSE OF FISHING BOAT SEIZURES AND THE SUBSEQUENT GOE EXPULSION OF THE US MILITARY MISSION. THESE ACTIONS WERE FOLLOWED BY THE WELL-KNOWN ECUADOREAN LITANY OF WHAT THEY PERCEIVE AS AGGRESSIVE AND DISCRIMINATORY ACTIONS BY THE USG AGAINST ECUADOR BECAUSE OF ITS OPEC MEMBERSHIP AND ITS JURIDICAL POSITION ON THE 200-MILE TERRITORIAL SEA: THE PHASING OUT OF PROGRAMS ON ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, DENIAL BY THE USG OF ACCESS TO SOFT LOANS IN THE IDB, THE DENIAL OF ANY TRANSFER OF OVER-AGE SHIPS TO THE ECUADOREAN NAVY, AND THE EXCLUSION OF ECUADOR FROM GSP IN THE US 1974 TRADE ACT. THE RESTORATION OF GOOD RELATIONS HAS BEEN BUILT ALMOST WHOLLY ON THE RENEWAL OF OUR MILITARY-TO-MILITARY RELATIONSHIP. BASED ON THE SMALL PROGRAM WE COMMENCED IN 1974 AND ECUADOREAN HOPES OF AN INCREASED PROGRAM, WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO AVOID THE PERENNIAL FISHING DISPUTE AND CONTRIBUTE TO A CLIMATE WHERE US TRADE AND INVESTMENT, INCLUDING OUR CONSIDERABLE INVESTMENT IN PETROLEUM, CAN BE PROMOTED. OUR MILITARY ASSISTANCE TRAINING PROGRAM HAS ENABLED US TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN EXCELLENT RELATIONS WITH THE SENIOR MILITARY OFFICERS WHO CONTROL THE
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MILITARY GOVERNMENT.

4. A DIMINUATION IN OUR MILITARY ASSISTANCE TRAINING PROGRAM WILL EVENTUALLY HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTS ON OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS, ALTHOUGH WE DO NOT BELIEVE THE EFFECT WILL BE IMMEDIATELY DISCERNABLE. THE USMLO LAID THE GROUNDWORK FOR INCREASED COURSE COSTS WITH KEY ECUADOREAN ARMED FORCES OFFICIALS BY INFORMALLY PROPOSING TO THE GOE THAT IN THE

FUTURE IT ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL TRAVEL AND LIVING COSTS OF TRAINEES. THE ECUADOREAN ARMED FORCES INDICATED THEY ARE CONSIDERING THIS PROPOSAL FOR FY 77 MAP TRAINING, AND HIGH STAFF ELEMENTS OF THE ARMED FORCES APPEAR TO VIEW THE PROPOSAL FAVORABLY. THIS POLICY WOULD BE A LOGICAL ALTERNATIVE TO A DRASTIC REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF PERSONNEL TO BE TRAINED BECAUSE OF INCREASED COURSE COSTS AND STATIC MAP FUNDING. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN IF FUTURE BUDGETARY LIMITATIONS ON THE ECUADOREAN ARMED FORCES WILL CAUSE THEM TO CANCEL NEEDED TRAINING IN FY 77 AND SUBSEQUENT YEARS, OR PERHAPS GO TO COUNTRIES OFFERING TRAINING AT LESS COST.

5. CONCERN B. DISCUSSION OF TYPES OF TRAINING OR SPECIFIC COURSES OF GREATEST INTEREST TO THE GOE/MILITARY. THE ECUADOREAN ARMED FORCES AND, HENCE, THE GOE (SINCE IT IS A MILITARY GOVERNMENT), ARE MOST INTERESTED IN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSES (BASIC, INTERMEDIATE, ADVANCED) FOR OFFICERS AND TECHNICAL TRAINING FOR OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN. EXAMPLES OF OFFICER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSES WHICH ARE DEEMED ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY ARE:

A. ARMY - BASIC AND INTERMEDIATE INFANTRY OFFICER, INTELLIGENCE OFFICER, ENGINEER OFFICER, PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT, AND SUPPLY COURSES; AND ADVANCED COURSES SUCH AS COMMAND AND STAFF COLLEGE PLUS RELATED ENLISTED/OFFICER TECHNICAL TRAINING IN COMBAT ARMS, ENGINEERS, SUPPLY AND PERSONNEL.

B. NAVY/MARINES - BASIC OFFICER COURSES IN CIC, ASW, DAMAGE CONTROL, WEAPONS, COMMUNICATIONS, SUPPLY, USMC, PATROLBOAT COMMANDER, RANGER AND AIRBORNE; AND INTERMEDIATE COURSES IN AMPHIBIOUS WARFARE (USMC), SURFACE
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SHIP DEPARTMENT HEAD, NAVAL SHIPYARD PROCEDURES AND OPERATIONS, MERCHANT MARINE SAFETY AND MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION. US NAVAL POST GRADUATE SCHOOL (OCEANOGRAPHY, WEAPONS SYSTEMS, ELECTRONICS, COMMUNICATIONS AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, AND COMPUTER SCIENCE) AND NAVAL COMMAND COLLEGE ARE EXAMPLES OF ADVANCED EDUCATION WHICH IS HIGHLY ESTEEMED AND DESIRED BY THE ECUADOREAN NAVY. ENLISTED TECHNICAL TRAINING FROM IAAFA, USARSA, IANTN, AND SCIATT ARE ALSO PREFERRED.

C. AIR FORCE (FAE) - FLIGHT TRAINING (PRIMARY THROUGH ADVANCED) IS OF GREATEST INTEREST TO THE FAE, SINCE INHOUSE CAPABILITY IS MARGINAL. TECHNICAL TRAINING IN MAINTENANCE, ELECTRONICS, AND SUPPLY FOR BOTH OFFICER AND ENLISTED IS ALSO HIGH ON THE LIST OF ECUADOREAN AIR FORCE

REQUIREMENTS.

6. THE ECUADOREAN ARMED FORCES ARE NOW PAYING SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNTS FOR TRAINING COURSES RELATED TO THE PURCHASE OF NEW WEAPONS SYSTEMS (22 SPACES AT IAAFA AND 7 IN CONUS IN CONJUNCTION WITH FMS PURCHASE OF A-37B AIRCRAFT) AND FOR ONE US NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL COURSE (WHICH CANNOT PRESENTLY BE FUNDED UNDER FY 76 MAP-T DUE TO LIMITATIONS IMPOSED ON FY 76 CRA FUNDING). THE FAE IS ALSO PAYING FOR ADVANCED FLIGHT TRAINING IN THE UK IN CONJUNCTION WITH

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THE PURCHASE OF JAGUAR AIRCRAFT. THEY ARE ALSO PAYING FOR TRAINING IN CANADA AND US FOR THE PURCHASE OF BUFFALO AND TWIN OTTER AIRCRAFT. THE ECUADOREAN NAVY IS PAYING WEST GERMANY FOR TRAINING OF CREWS TO MAN THREE MISSILE LAUNCHERS AND TWO 1,000-TON SUBMARINES PURCHASED IN RECENT YEARS. ADDITIONALLY, ECUADOREAN NAVY IS PAYING FOR TRAINING OF PERSONNEL IN THE UNITED STATES IN CONNECTION WITH COLLINS RADIO CONTRACT. FRENCH TRAINING HAS BEEN PURCHASED FOR HELICOPTERS AND LIGHT TANKS BOUGHT FOR

THE NAVY AND AIR FORCE (HELOES) AND ARMY (TANKS).

7. IT IS LIKELY THAT IN FUTURE, ADDITIONAL US TRAINING WILL BE PAID FOR BY THE ECUADOREAN ARMED FORCES, BUT PRIMARILY IN THE CONTEXT OF TRAINING NOT PREVIOUSLY INCLUDED IN THE FY 76 AND 77 MAP TRAINING PROGRAMS. EXAMPLES OF SUCH ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS ARE NAVAL AVIATION UNDERGRADUATE PILOT, AVIATION MAINTENANCE AND SAFETY OFFICER TRAINING PLUS AN ADDITIONAL US NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL COURSE IN OCEANOGRAPHY. THE FAE MIGHT POSSIBLY
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PURCHASE SOME BASIC AND ADVANCED FLIGHT TRAINING AND DEPEND UPON THIS CADRE TO IMPROVE IN-HOUSE CAPABILITY. IT IS UNCERTAIN AT THIS TIME IF THE ARMY WILL PURCHASE ANY TRAINING. A FURTHER ESCALATION OF FMS TRAINING COSTS WOULD SERIOUSLY JEOPARDIZE FUTURE ECUADOREAN TRAINING PURCHASES.

8. IF TRAINING IS NOT PURCHASED FROM THE US, THE ECUADOREAN ARMED FORCES HAVE SEVERAL ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF MEETING TRAINING REQUIREMENTS. THE PROBABILITIES OF ACHIEVING FULL IN-HOUSE CAPABILITY OR OF ABANDONING OUTSIDE TRAINING ARE REJECTED AS BEING UNATTAINABLE. THE ECUADOREAN ARMED FORCES ARE OFFERED AND PRESENTLY ACCEPT TRAINING FROM VARIOUS WEST EUROPEAN AND SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRIES. IN MOST OF THESE COUNTRIES THE TRAINING OFFERED IS TUITION ONLY WITH OTHER EXPENSES ABSORBED BY ECUADOR. THE COURSES IN SOUTH AMERICA ARE PRIMARILY TRANSLATED VERSIONS OF US TRAINING WHICH ARE LONG ON THEORY AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION BUT LACKING IN PRACTICAL EXERCISES AND EXECUTION. THE IMPACT UPON THE ECUADOREAN ARMED FORCES RESULTING FROM ACCEPTANCE OF OTHER THAN US TRAINING IS MOST EVIDENT WHEN RECENT ECUADOREAN PURCHASES ARE EXAMINED. THE FAE, FOR EXAMPLE, HAS PURCHASED 6 ALOUETTE II/III HELOES FROM FRANCE AND 3 AVRO 748, 14 STRIKE-MASTER BAC-167, AND 12 JAGUAR AIRCRAFT FROM THE UK PLUS BUFFALOES AND TWIN OTTERS FROM CANADA. THE ECUADOREAN NAVY'S PURCHASES INCLUDE THREE MISSILE LAUNCHERS, TWO SUBMARINES, AND THREE FAST PATROLBOATS FROM WEST GERMANY, PLUS 2 HELOES FROM FRANCE AND TWO ARAVA STOL AIRCRAFT FROM ISRAEL. THE ECUADOREAN ARMY'S PURCHASES INCLUDE ARAVA AIRCRAFT AND FRENCH LIGHT TANKS. TRAINING OFFERED BY THE US IS PREFERRED; BUT IF NOT OFFERED, THEY WILL GO ELSEWHERE AS THEY DID DURING THE 1971-74 PERIOD WHEN FMS AND MAP-T WERE SUSPENDED. WHEN THE ECUADOREAN MILITARY ARE FORCED TO SEEK TRAINING FROM OTHER THAN US SOURCES, THEY ALSO MAKE THEIR PURCHASES ELSEWHERE EVEN THOUGH US EQUIPMENT IS PREFERRED IN MOST CASES.

9. CONCERN C. DISCUSSION OF TYPES OF TRAINING OF SPECIFIC COURSES WHICH ARE OF GREATEST BENEFIT TO US NATIONAL INTERESTS IN TERMS OF BILATERAL RELATIONS OR OTHER FACTORS. THE TYPES
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OF TRAINING AND COURSES WHICH ARE OF GREATEST BENEFIT TO OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS ARE THOSE WHICH ARE OF SPECIFIC INTEREST TO THE KEY MILITARY LEADERS WHO ARE RUNNING THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT, AND THESE COURSES HAVE BEEN ENUMERATED ABOVE. IN ADDITION TO BEING OF BENEFIT TO CURRENT US NATIONAL INTEREST AND USG/GOE RELATIONSHIP, THE OFFICERS RECEIVING US TRAINING ARE THE INFLUENTIAL LEADERS OF THE FUTURE AND THEIR EXPOSURE TO US DOCTRINE, TRAINING AND US CONTACTS PROVIDE THE GOOD POSSIBILITY OF A CONTINUOUS US-INFLUENCED GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP. EVEN IF LEADERSHIP OF GOE CHANGES FROM MILITARY TO CIVILIAN THE ARMED FORCES WILL CONTINUE TO BE A MAJOR INFLUENTIAL FORCE IN ECUADOR.

10. OUR CURRENT PRINCIPAL INTERESTS IN ECUADOR REVOLVE AROUND OUR RELATIVELY LARGE INVESTMENTS IN THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, FISHING AND LAW OF THE SEA MATTERS, PROMOTION OF US TRADE AND INVESTMENT, AND ECUADOR'S POSITION IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. WITH RESPECT TO FISHING, THE NAVY IS KEY TO ATTAINMENT OF OUR GOALS AND IT IS, THEREFORE, IMPORTANT TO MEET TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE THE TRAINING PRIORITIES OF THE GENERAL COMMANDER OF THE NAVY, WHO IS ALSO THE PRESIDENT OF THE RULING SUPREME COUNCIL. GOE PETROLEUM POLICY IS MANAGED IN LARGE PART BY THE MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES, WHO IS AN ARMY OFFICER, AND IS CLOSE TO GENERAL DURAN, COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE ARMY AND MEMBER OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL. THE AIR FORCE DOES NOT HAVE OFFICERS IN POSITIONS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO US AND ITS COMMANDER IS CONSIDERABLY LESS INFLUENTIAL THAN THE OTHER TWO MEMBERS OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL. IN TERMS OF OUR COMMERCIAL INTERESTS, HIGH RANKING MILITARY OFFICERS OCCUPY THE MINISTRIES WHICH MAKE MOST OF THE CAPITAL EQUIPMENT PURCHASES FOR THE GOE (AGRICULTURE, PUBLIC WORKS, TELECOMMUNICATIONS, EDUCATION, DEFENSE, ETC.). THEIR SOURCES FOR PURCHASES ARE INFLUENCED BY THEIR FOREIGN MILITARY TRAINING EXPERIENCES AND THE CURRENT STATE OF US/ECUADOREAN MILITARY RELATIONS.

11. THE COURSES MENTIONED EARLIER ARE ONLY PARTIALLY PROVIDED UNDER GRANT ASSISTANCE. ECUADOR'S FY 76 MAP-T ALLOCATION OF \$400,000 WAS AN AMOUNT DESIGNED TO START UP
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THE PROGRAM AFTER ALMOST A 4-YEAR SUSPENSION. THE FY 76 ALLOCATION OF \$900,000 WAS DESIGNED TO GET THE PROGRAM UP TO FULL SPEED BASED UPON THE MINIMUM CAPACITY OF THE ECUADOREAN ARMED FORCES TO ABSORB TRAINING REQUIRED TO IMPROVE THEIR POOR OPERATIONAL READINESS STATUS. THE FREEZE OF FY 76 MAP TRAINING AT FY 75 LEVELS (BASED ON FY 76 CRA FUNDS LIMITATIONS) HAS BROUGHT THE ECUADOREAN ARMED FORCES' TRAINING PROGRAMS TO A VIRTUAL HALT. IF WE ARE FORCED BY CIRCUMSTANCES TO INFORM THE ECUADOREAN MILITARY THAT THE AMOUNT PROPOSED FOR FY 76 MAP TRAINING HAS BEEN CUT BY MORE THAN HALF, AS WELL AS THE FACT THAT COURSE COSTS ARE GOING UP, WE WILL BE IN A VERY BAD WAY WITH THOSE TOP OFFICERS WHO HAVE LED THE GOE IN ITS EFFORTS TO COOPERATE WITH RATHER THAN CONFRONT THE US.

12. IF COSTS DOUBLE THE ESSENTIAL GRANT PROGRAM CANNOT BE CONTINUED UNDER THE PRESENT PROGRAM FUNDING LEVEL EVEN SHOULD THE GOE UNDERWRITE ALL TRAVEL AND LIVING ALLOWANCE COSTS. INCREASED COSTS OF FLIGHT TRAINING WILL MAKE IT ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO PROVIDE THIS TYPE OF TRAINING UNDER MAP IN THE FUTURE UNLESS 2 OR 3 SPACES FOR FLIGHT TRAINING ARE UTILIZED TO THE EXCLUSION OF ALL OTHER AIR FORCE TRAINING. SIMILAR COMMENTS ARE APPLICABLE TO NAVY AND ARMY COURSES ESPECIALLY WITH REGARD TO US NAVAL POST-GRADUATE SCHOOL EDUCATION AND ADVANCED COURSES AT COMMAND AND STAFF LEVEL.

13. CONCERN D. INCREASED COSTS WILL MOST LIKELY RESULT IN THE ABANDONMENT OF SEVERAL TYPES OF TRAINING NOW OBTAINED FROM THE US UNDER EITHER GRANT OR FMS CASH PURCHASES. THE FIRST TYPE TRAINING WHICH WOULD LIKELY BE ABANDONED IS PME (PROFESSIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION) AT

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THE COMMAND STAFF LEVEL FOR ALL SERVICES. SECONDLY, THE FAE WOULD CONCEIVABLY ABANDON TECHNICAL (IAAFA) TRAINING COMPLETELY AND CONCENTRATE ON FLYING AND OTHER SPECIALTY COURSES. THE NAVY WOULD MOST LIKELY ABANDON ALL CONUS TRAINING WITH THE EXCEPTION OF BASIC USMC OFFICER AND SURFACE WARFARE DEPARTMENT HEAD COURSES. ALL INTERNATIONAL DEFENSE MANAGEMENT AND NAVAL WAR COLLEGE (COMMAND COLLEGE) COURSES WOULD BE ELIMINATED. THE NAVY WOULD PROBABLY ALSO TERMINATE ITS NEWLY FORMED ASSOCIATIONS WITH IAAFA, USARSA (MARINES), SCIATT, AND IANTN (THIS COULD BE THE LAST ONE TO BE DELETED). THE ARMY WOULD BE FORCED TO SEVERELY CURTAIL ITS PARTICIPATION IN USARSA (CANAL ZONE) COURSES OF WHICH ECUADOR HAS BEEN A LEADING PRO- PONENT AND WOULD LIKELY DELETE CONUS TRAINING ALTOGETHER.

14. CONCERN E. POSSIBILITY OF HOST COUNTRY LOOKING ELSE- WHERE FOR TRAINING, AND IMPACT ON MILITARY COMPETENCE, ON INTEREST IN US MILITARY MATERIEL AND DOCTRINE, AND ON OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS. AS STATED EARLIER, ECUADOR WOULD BE CONFIDENTIAL

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FORCED TO LOOK ELSEWHERE FOR SO-CALLED EQUIVALENT TRAIN- ING JUST AS IT DID FOR THE WHOLE OF ITS OUTSIDE TRAINING FROM 1971 TO MID-1974 AND AS IT HAS CONTINUED TO DO TO SUPPLEMENT THE LIMITED TRAINING IT HAS RECEIVED FROM THE US IN FY 75 AND 76. THE TRAINING FROM WEST EUROPEAN (UK, FRG, FRANCE, ITALY) AND SOUTH AMERICAN (COLOMBIA, VENEZUELA, BRAZIL, CHILE, AND ARGENTINA) COUNTRIES WOULD BE SOUGHT ALBEIT US TRAINING IS CURRENTLY PREFERRED. MILITARY COMPETENCE WILL CONTINUE TO SUFFER AS IS EVIDENT BY THE RESULTS OF SOME FOUR YEARS OF LACK OF US TRAINING, A SIT- UATION WHICH OUR RENEWED EFFORTS OF FY 75 AND 76 HAVE NOT YET OVERCOME.

15. THE EUCADOREAN INTEREST IN US MATERIEL HISTORICALLY

SUFFERS MARKEDLY WHEN TRAINING IS NOT AVAILABLE. FOREIGN (NON-US) PURCHASES IN FY 75 AAND 76 AMOUNTED TO APPROXIMATELY US \$300 MILLION BECAUSE OF EQUIPMENT ORDERED IN FY 72-76 TIMEFRAME, WHILE US COMMERCIAL AND FMS CASH PURCHASES AMOUNTED TO ABOUT US \$90 MILLION IN THE SAME PERIOD. US DOCTRINE IS PREFERRED BY ALL SERVICES BUT US DOCTRINE IN A JAGUAR AIRCRAFT, A GERMAN FPB/MISSILE LAUNCHER/SUBMARINE, OR A FRENCH TANK IS NOT ALWAYS COMPATIBLE. STANDARDIZATION IS IMPOSSIBLE, THOUGH IT ANNUALLY APPEARS AS A PRIME GOAL OF US MILITARY SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

16. BECAUSE THE PRIMARY GOAL OF OUR MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IS TO INFLUENCE THE TOP MILITARY OFFICIALS WHO CONTROL THE ECUADOREAN GOVERNMENT, THE GREATEST DETERMENTAL EFFECT OF THE GOE HAVING TO LOOK ELSE WHERE FOR TRAINING WOULD BE EXPERIENCED IN THE AREA OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS. US TRAINING AND ASSISTANCE, OF COURSE, DOES NOT BUY THE GOE LEADERSHIP BUT IT ASSURES THAT WE HAVE ITS ATTENTION ON MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE TO US. SHOULD THE US MILITARY CEASE TO BE THE INSTITUTION PREFERRED BY ECUADOREANS FOR TRAINING AND ASSISTANCE, OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS WOULD BE IN DANGER OF RETURNING TO THE LOW STATE EXISTING FROM 1971-74 WHEN US INFLUENCE WAS CONSIDERABLY REDUCED FROM THE LEVEL EXERCISED IN THE PAST.

17. CONCERN F. THE IMPACT IF GRANT TRAINING WERE ELIMINATED. THE IMPACT OF ELIMINATION OF GRANT TRAINING FOR
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ECUADOR COULD BE THE CULMINATING ACT TO UNDO ALL THE ADVANCES MADE SINCE 1974 WHEN MILITARY RELATIONS WERE ESTABLISHED BY THE USG AND THE GOE. IT WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE PERCEIVED AS YET ANOTHER DISCRIMINATORY ACT AND REPRISAL TAKEN BY THE USG AGAINST ECUADOR FOR ITS MEMBERSHIP IN OPEC AND ITS DIFFERENT LAW OF THE SEA JURIDICAL CONCEPT WITH RESPECT TO THE TERRITORIAL SEA. THE ON-AGAIN, OFF-AGAIN POLICY ON MAP AND FMS, WHILE CAUSED BY POLICIES OF BOTH COUNTRIES CERTAINLY IS NOT CONDUCIVE TO ANY EXPRESSION OF SINCERITY AND ESTABLISHING PROLONGED GOOD US/GOE RELATIONSHIPS.
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